

Remarks

Claims 1 and 46 have been amended. Claim 47 has been canceled.

The Examiner has objected to applicant's claims 1 and 46 because of certain informalities. In particular, the Examiner has argued that the last step of claims 1 and 46 is missing a word "an" after the word "obtaining." Applicant has amended applicant's claims 1 and 46 to add the word "an" after the word "obtaining," thereby obviating the Examiner's objection.

The Examiner has rejected applicant's claim 47 under 35 USC 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has cancelled applicant's claim 47, thereby obviating the Examiner's rejection with respect to this claim.

The Examiner has also rejected applicant's claims 1 and 46 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner has argued that the feature of "a weight which reduces as a distance from the center of the partial base sequence to a node increases" is unclear and requires clarification via clearer claim language. The Examiner has pointed out that one of the interpretations of this feature is that the weight reduces in response to the increase of distance between the center of the partial base sequence to a node (e.g. the weight is inversely proportional to the distance).

In order to avoid this rejection and to clarify this limitation, applicant has amended applicant's claims 1 and 46 to recite "a weight which reduces in response to the increase of distance between the center of the partial base sequence and a node," corresponding to the Examiner's interpretation of this feature. Applicant, therefore, now believes that applicant's

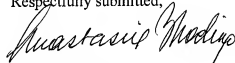
amended claims 1 and 46 clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention and are in compliance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicant's claims 1 and 46, as amended, and their respective dependent claims, meet all statutory requirements. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims and passage of same and this application to issue is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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